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Laundry Work, perhaps the most interesting in the book, is composed of reports by different special investigators.

Ептн Аввотт.

Hull-House, Chicago.

The Labor Question. By Washington Gladden. (Boston: The Pilgrim Press. 1911. Pp. 209. \$.75.)

This little book is a collection of five essays recently published in the "Outlook." It expresses the benevolent or Christian-bourgeois viewpoint in respect to labor organizations and controversies: present social arrangements are at bottom sound; modern industrial development has, however, placed the individual laborer at a disadvantage in bargaining; unions are necessary to redress the balance and keep wages and conditions of employment from degeneration: their essential function, therefore, is collective bargaining; thus functioning, they work toward the completion of democracy—the ideal state wherein good-will, justice and harmony will prevail as the results of a universal balance of power among the social classes. Further, it is argued that this ideal consummation is at present retarded by the feudalistic attitude of employers. which begets class hostility and the current evils of unionismpetty working rules, opposition to prison labor, restriction of output, violence, sympathetic strikes, the secondary boycott, etc. It could be indefinitely forwarded by a frank recognition of the right of the workers to organize and bargain collectively and a friendly attitude toward this action. Let employers adopt this attitude and unionism would become universal, the closed shop controversy would disappear, the demands of the men would be moderate, arbitration would be universalized and harmony attained through honorable, just, and fair dealing.

The book is a doublesided plea for such dealing and a defense of church action in the attempt to secure it. Grant the fundamental social viewpoint of the author and his argument and conclusions are sound. There are those, however, who would seriously question the possibility, under the existing industrial organization, of securing agreement between employers and workers in regard to the fundamental concepts "justice" and "fairness," and thus of attaining a harmonious balance of industrial power. Herein, if anywhere, is the weakness in Dr. Gladden's position.

R. F. HOXIE.